

Message Text

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12

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 IO-11 ISO-00 COME-00 TRSE-00

STR-04 DOTE-00 EPA-01 OES-03 L-03 CEQ-01 /050 W

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R 270153Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7225

INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, SENV, ETLN, JA

SUBJECT: JAPAN AUTOMOBILE MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION (JAMA) URGES

GOJ EXERCISE CAUTION IN APPLYING POLLUTION STANDARDS ON IMPORTS

REF: TOKYO 2610

1. ACCORDING TO CURRENT PRESS REPORTS, JAMA HAS RECENTLY APPROACHED THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT (MOT) TO URGE THAT IMPORTED CARS BE ACCORDED "SPECIAL TREATMENT" IN MEETING JAPAN'S STRICT 1975 EMISSION CONTROLS WHICH ARE TO COME INTO EFFECT AGAINST FOREIGN MODELS ON APRIL 1.

2. EMBOFF CONTACTED JAMA WHICH CONFIRMED THAT ORGANIZATION HAS BEEN IN TOUCH WITH MOT TO REQUEST THAT "DUE CONSIDERATION" BE GIVEN TO FACT THAT AUTOMOBILES ARE A "WORLD COMMODITY" AND THAT "JAPAN'S EMISSION REQUIREMENTS ARE VERY STRICT." SPECIFICALLY JAMA REQUESTED THAT PROCEDURES FOR CERTIFYING IMPORTED VEHICLES BE SIMPLIFIED AND THAT FOREIGN MODELS PRODUCED BEFORE MARCH 31 NOT BE REQUIRED TO MEET NEW STANDARDS. ACCORDING JAMA, THEY

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DID NOT, HOWEVER, ASK FOR POSTPONEMENT APR. 1 DEADLINE.

3. WE HAVE CONTACTED FORD AND GM REPS, JAPAN, WHO INDICATE THAT, ALTHOUGH ALL THEIR MODELS HAVE NOT YET BEEN CERTIFIED AS MEETING NEW EMISSION CONTROL REGS, THEY ANTICIPATE NO PROBLEM WITH THEIR BEING CERTIFIED. WE UNDERSTAND, HOWEVER, SOME CHRYSLER MODELS MAY HAVE DIFFICULTY MEETING NEW STANDARDS.

4. EMBASSY COMMENT: WE BELIEVE JAMA APPROACH TO MOT IS REFLECTION OF JAPAN AUTOMOBILE INDUSTRY'S GROWING SENSITIVITY TO INCREASING FOREIGN CRITICISM OF IMBALANCE IN AUTO TRADE (SEE REFTEL). APPROACH PROBABLY GENERATED BY THE INDUSTRY'S CONCERN TO FORESTALL POSSIBLE MOVEMENT AGAINST ITS OVERSEAS MARKETS, PARTICULARLY IN EUROPE.
HODGSON

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 27 FEB 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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